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TAGS: OPRC, PREL, XA, US
SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE - FRIDAY, JULY 15, 1994

1. RWANDA PRESS GUIDANCE (AF, IO, AND PRM) AND A WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT AND A NIGERIA PRESS GUIDANCE (AF) ARE BELOW.

2. AF PRESS GUIDANCE - RWANDA: ISSUE OF RECOGNITION

Q: WHAT CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT THE ISSUES OF RECOGNITION?

A: THE WHITE HOUSE HAS ANNOUNCED THAT WE HAVE SHUT DOWN THE EMBASSY OF RWANDA AND ORDERED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SO-CALLED INTERIM GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA TO DEPART WITHIN FIVE WORKING DAYS. WE CANNOT ALLOW REPRESENTATIVES OF A REGIME THAT SUPPORTS GENOCIDAL MASSACRE TO CONTINUE WORKING IN THE UNITED STATES. THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT RECOGNIZE ANY GOVERNMENT IN RWANDA AT THIS TIME.

WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT THE ARUSHA FRAMEWORK OF

GENUINE POWERSHARING MUST BE RESPECTED IN ANY NEW GOVERNMENT AND CALL ON THE RWANDAN PARTIES TO MEET AND BEGIN SERIOUS AND MEANINGFUL DISCUSSIONS ON INSTALLING A BROAD-BASED TRANSITION GOVERNMENT BASED ON DIALOGUE.

3. WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT - RWANDA: ISSUE OF RECOGNITION

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IN AN EFFORT TO BRING AN END TO THE FIGHTING AND GROWING HUMANITARIAN DISASTER IN RWANDA, THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION HAS CLOSED THE EMBASSY OF RWANDA AND ORDERED ALL PERSONNEL TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SO-CALLED INTERIM GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA MUST DEPART WITHIN FIVE WORKING DAYS.

THE WHITE HOUSE ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT IT WILL BEGIN CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS TO REMOVE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT FROM RWANDA'S SEAT ON THE COUNCIL. THE STATE DEPARTMENT DECLARED THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT WILL BE DENIED ACCESS TO ANY RWANDAN GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL HOLDINGS IN THE UNITED STATES.

"THE UNITED STATES CANNOT ALLOW REPRESENTATIVES OF A REGIME THAT SUPPORTS GENOCIDAL MASSACRE TO REMAIN ON OUR SOIL," PRESIDENT CLINTON SAID.

NOTING THAT THE ONGOING FIGHTING IS CREATING AN EVEN MORE PERILOUS HUMANITARIAN DISASTER IN RWANDA AND ALONG ITS BORDERS, THE WHITE HOUSE APPEALED TO ALL FORCES TO AGREE TO AN IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE. IT CALLED ON ALL RESPONSIBLE PARTIES TO BEGIN SERIOUS TALKS ON FORMING A TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT THAT WILL LEAD TO GENUINE POWER SHARING.

THE WHITE HOUSE APPLAUDED THE FRENCH EFFORT TO PROTECT RWANDANS AT RISK, AND SAID THE UNITED STATES WOULD CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR RAPID DEPLOYMENT OF THE UN PEACEKEEPING FORCE (UNAMIR) TO REPLACE THE FRENCH. IT

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APPEALED TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO REDOUBLE ITS EFFORTS TO DEPLOY THOSE U.N. FORCES.

THE WHITE HOUSE AGAIN INSISTED THAT THOSE RWANDANS RESPONSIBLE FOR GENOCIDAL KILLINGS AND OTHER CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE. IT SAID IT HOPED THAT THE UNITED NATIONS WOULD ACT SWIFTLY -- UNDER THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION THAT ESTABLISHED A U.N

COMMISSION OF EXPERTS -- TO CREATE A WAR CRIMES

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TRIBUNAL.

AS THE CRISIS IN RWANDA HAS UNFOLDED, THE UNITED STATES HAS TAKEN A LEADING ROLE IN EFFORTS TO PROTECT THE RWANDAN PEOPLE AND ENSURE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE. IT HAS:

-- PROVIDED MORE THAN DOLLARS 95 MILLION IN RELIEF, INCLUDING FOOD, MEDICINE AND SUPPLIES FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PRIVATE RELIEF AGENCIES.

-- FLOWN ABOUT 100 DEFENSE DEPARTMENT MISSIONS INTO THE REGION TO AIRLIFT RELIEF SUPPLIES.

-- STRONGLY SUPPORTED AN EXPANDED UNAMIR; AIRLIFTED 50 ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS TO KAMPALA TO SUPPORT THE UN PEACEKEEPERS; AND COMMITTED TO EQUIPPING THE U.N.'S GHANAIAN PEACEKEEPING BATTALION.

4. IO PRESS GUIDANCE - RWANDA: CURRENT SITUATION

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Q: WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE GOVERNMENT POSITION? DO THE GOVERNMENT FORCES CONTROL ANY MAJOR TOWNS? HAVE THE REBELS "WON"?

A: UN SOURCES REPORT THAT THE "GOVERNMENT" OF RWANDA IS IN TOTAL DISARRAY. IT APPEARS TO REMAIN IN GISENYI, THOUGH THERE ARE REPORTS THAT SOME MEMBERS ARE EITHER FLEEING THE COUNTRY, OR TRYING TO FIND REFUGE WITHIN THE FRENCH HUMANITARIAN ZONE, TO THE DISMAY OF THE FRENCH. RPF MILITARY COMMANDER PAUL KAGAME ANNOUNCED THAT A NEW, BROADLY-BASED GOVERNMENT WOULD BE SWORN IN ON JULY 18TH AT NOON. IT IS EXPECTED THAT A UNILATERAL CEASEFIRE WILL BE DECLARED SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

5. IO PRESS GUIDANCE - RWANDA: UN SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION

Q: WHAT ACTION DID THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL TAKE LAST NIGHT ON RWANDA?

A: THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADOPTED A PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT DEMANDING AN IMMEDIATE CEASEFIRE IN RWANDA AND REAFFIRMING THE HUMANITARIAN NATURE OF THE SAFE AREAS IN SOUTHWEST

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RWANDA. THE STATEMENT URGED MEMBER STATES, U.N. AGENCIES AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO PROVIDE URGENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE CIVILIAN POPULATION IN DISTRESS.

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Q: PROVIDE TEXT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT:

A: THE SECURITY COUNCIL IS ALARMED BY THE CONTINUATION OF THE FIGHTING IN RWANDA, WHICH IS CAUSING A MASSIVE EXODUS OF THE POPULATION. THIS SITUATION MAY LEAD VERY QUICKLY TO A FURTHER HUMANITARIAN DISASTER AND ENDANGER THE STABILITY OF THE REGION, SINCE THE FLOW OF THESE REFUGEES IS SERIOUSLY AFFECTING THE NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES.

IN THE LIGHT OF THIS GRAVE SITUATION, THE SECURITY COUNCIL

--DEMANDS AN IMMEDIATE AND UNCONDITIONAL CEASEFIRE AND INVITES THE PARTIES TO REPORT TO THE FORCE COMMANDER OF THE UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION IN RWANDA (UNAMIR) ON THEIR ACTIONS IN THIS RESPECT;

--URGES THE RESUMPTION OF THE POLITICAL PROCESS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ARUSHA PEACE AGREEMENT AND CALLS UPON THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND HIS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE TO CONTRIBUTE ACTIVELY TO IT;

,, REAFFIRMS THE HUMANITARIAN NATURE OF THE SECURE AREA IN THE SOUTH-WEST OF RWANDA AND DEMANDS THAT ALL CONCERNED FULLY RESPECT THIS. IT WILL KEEP THE MATTER UNDER CLOSE REVIEW;

--URGES ALL MEMBER STATES, UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES, AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO MOBILIZE ALL AVAILABLE RESOURCES IN ORDER URGENTLY TO PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE CIVILIAN POPULATION IN DISTRESS;

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--CALLS UPON MEMBER STATES TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE DEPLOYMENT OF THE EXPANDED UNAMIR IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

THE SECURITY COUNCIL IS DETERMINED TO FOLLOW VERY CLOSELY

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THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITUATION IN RWANDA AND REMAINS ACTIVELY SEIZED OF THE MATTER.

Q: DID THE U.S. MAKE ANY PLEDGES REGARDING REFUGEES?

A: NO. HOWEVER, THE U.S. WILL SUPPORT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS.

6. PRM FRESS GUIDANCE - RWANDA: REFUGEE UPDATE

Q: WHAT IS HAPPENING ON THE RWANDA/ZAIRE BORDER?

A: HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF RWANDESE REFUGEES HAVE BEEN CROSSING THE BORDER INTO ZAIRE, REPORTEDLY AT A RATE OF AS HIGH AS 10,000-15,000 PER HOUR.

THE NEW MASSIVE INFLUX BEGAN WEDNESDAY EVENING AS THE REFUGEES, MOSTLY HUTUS, FLED THE RAPID ADVANCE OF THE RWANDESE PATRIOTIC FRONT, WHICH WAS MOVING TOWARD THE REMAINING STRONGHOLD OF RWANDA'S HUTU-LED INTERIM GOVERNMENT.

ABOUT 250,000 PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY REACHED GOMA, A BORDER TOWN IN ZAIRE WHICH ALREADY HAD SEVERAL THOUSAND
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REFUGEES. THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR) HAS ESTIMATED THAT THIS FIGURE COULD REACH ONE MILLION BY THIS WEEKEND.

WE SHOULD STRESS THAT THIS IS A DYNAMIC SITUATION. THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE ON THE MOVE INSIDE RWANDA IS ABOUT 5 MILLION.

UNHCR HAS BEEN STOCKPILING GOODS AND WILL BEGIN A DAILY EMERGENCY AIRLIFT OF NEEDED RELIEF ITEMS IMMEDIATELY. UNHCR AND OTHER RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE RED CROSS (IFRC) HAVE LIMITED STAFF IN THE GOMA AREA.

ACCORDING TO UNHCR, THE MOST URGENT NEEDS ARE FOR SUFFICIENT WATER, SHELTER MATERIALS AND BLANKETS. SINCE MOST OF THE REFUGEES ARE CARRYING FOOD AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS WITH THEM, FOOD IS NOT YET A PROBLEM. HOWEVER ADEQUATE FOOD SUPPLIES WILL BECOME CRITICAL RAPIDLY AND THE LOGISTICS OF PROVIDING HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR

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REFUGEES IN THE GOMA AREA ARE DAUNTING.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC) IS STEPPING UP ITS RELIEF EFFORTS FOR THOSE DISPLACED STILL IN RWANDA.

THE ADDITION OF ONE MILLION MORE REFUGEES TO THE EXISTING RWANDA/BURUNDI REFUGEE CASELOAD OF ONE MILLION WILL OBVIOUSLY STRAIN HUMANITARIAN CAPACITIES.

THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, UNHCR, AND OTHERS HAVE CALLED UPON
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THE RWANDA ADVERSARIES TO AGREE TO AN IMMEDIATE CEASEFIRE TO HELP STAUNCH THESE MASSIVE DISPLACEMENTS.

Q: WOULD YOU PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON THE OTHER RWANDAN REFUGEES IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES?

A: IN ADDITION TO THE RWANDANS FLEEING INTO ZAIRE, OVER 500,000 HAD ALREADY TAKEN REFUGE IN TANZANIA, BURUNDI, AND UGANDA. ABOUT 336,000 OF THESE ARE IN TANZANIA.

Q: WHAT IS THE U.S. DOING TO HELP?

A: SINCE APRIL 1994, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS PROVIDED OVER 97 MILLION DOLLARS IN HUMANITARIAN AID TO THE RELIEF EFFORTS FOR THE RWANDA CRISIS.

WE ARE WORKING ON ADDITIONAL FUNDING.

THE STATE DEPARTMENT CONTRIBUTED 15.6 MILLION DOLLARS TO UNHCR, THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE RED CROSS (IFRC), AND THE INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE (IRC) TO SUPPORT THEIR ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR THE EARLIER WAVES OF REFUGEES.

USAID'S OFFICE OF FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA) HAS MADE 4.6 MILLION DOLLARS AVAILABLE TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC) FOR RELIEF OPERATIONS IN RWANDA.

FOOD FOR PEACE HAS APPROVED CONTRIBUTIONS OF ALMOST 66 MILLION DOLLARS IN FOOD COMMODITIES FOR THE RWANDA/BURUNDI
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REGIONAL EMERGENCY SINCE APRIL.

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE HAS PROVIDED 4 MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF FOOD COMMODITIES FOR THE RWANDA/BURUNDI EMERGENCY SINCE APRIL.

THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HAS CARRIED OUT OVER 100 HUMANITARIAN AIRLIFTS OF RELIEF SUPPLIES FOR UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF AND ICRC DISTRIBUTION TO REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS. AIRLIFT SUPPORT TO DATE IS VALUED AT NEARLY 7 MILLION DOLLARS.

7. AF PRESS GUIDANCE - NIGERIA: GENERAL SITUATION

Q: WHAT IS THE SITUATION IN NIGERIA?

A: THE NATIONAL UNION OF PETROLEUM WORKERS HAS BEEN ON STRIKE SINCE JULY 4, SEEKING THE RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS AND WAGE INCREASES. THE STRIKE, WHILE CENTERED IN THE SOUTH, HAS BEGUN TO SPREAD TO OTHER REGIONS.

THERE ARE ACUTE FUEL SHORTAGES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY AS ONE MAIN REFINERY HAS BEEN SHUT DOWN AND THE MILITARY HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO ADEQUATELY SUPPLY CUSTOMERS. THE UNION'S GOAL IS TO STOP BOTH PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION AND BRING TRAFFIC TO A STANDSTILL.

THE NIGERIAN LABOUR CONGRESS IS CONSIDERING A GENERAL
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STRIKE POSSIBLY TO START ON JULY 19.

WE CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE SITUATION CLOSELY. WHILE THERE HAVE BEEN NO MAJOR INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE, WE REMIND ALL AMERICANS THAT A TRAVEL ADVISORY REMAINS IN EFFECT FOR NIGERIA.

Q: WHAT IS OUR OVERALL POLICY TOWARD NIGERIA?

A: THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTS RESPONSIBLE EFFORTS TO RESTORE CIVILIAN, DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT TO NIGERIA. WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY URGED THE NIGERIAN MILITARY TO RELEASE THE RESULTS OF THE JUNE 12, 1993 ELECTIONS.

THE UNITED STATES HAS NOT AND WILL NOT SUPPORT ANY

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INDIVIDUAL. OUR INTEREST IS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AND RESPECT FOR A DEMOCRATIC PROCESS THAT ENSURES THAT THE WILL OF THE NIGERIAN PEOPLE IS RESPECTED.

WE HAVE MADE IT CLEAR TO NIGERIAN LEADERS THAT SANCTIONS IMPOSED IN THE WAKE OF THE ANNULMENT OF THE 1993 ELECTION WILL BE REVIEWED ONLY WHEN THE MILITARY REGIME DEMONSTRATES COMMITMENT TO CREATING THE CONDITIONS FOR AN EARLY RESTORATION OF DEMOCRATIC PROCESS.

Q: IS OUR POLICY WORKING?

A: THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT IS COMING UNDER INCREASING PRESSURE FOR RETURN TO CIVILIAN DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT. OUR POLICY IS CONTRIBUTING TO THIS EFFORT.

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WE CONTINUE TO REVIEW THE SITUATION IN NIGERIA ON A REGULAR BASIS AND WILL TAKE SUCH FURTHER ACTIONS AS MAY CONTRIBUTE TO PROGRESS TOWARDS DEMOCRACY.

Q: WHAT IS OUR VIEW OF ABIOLA?

A: CHIEF M.K.O. ABIOLA WAS THE APPARENT WINNER IN WHAT MANY CALL FREE ELECTIONS LAST YEAR. WE CALL ON THE ABACHA REGIME TO RELEASE THE ELECTION RESULTS.

SANCTIONS IMPOSED AGAINST NIGERIA AFTER THE JUNE 1993 ELECTIONS ARE:

VISA RESTRICTIONS -- TO PERSONS WHO FORMULATE IMFLEMENT OR BENEFIT FROM POLICIES THAT HINDER A TRANSITION TO DEMOCRACY AND THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILIES.

ALL ASSISTANCE TO NIGERIA INCLUDING MILITARY TRAINING IS TERMINATED WITH THE EXCEPTION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DEMOCRATIZATION AID TO THE SOCIAL SECTOR THROUGH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES.

ALL APPLICATIONS FROM US BUSINESSES FOR A LICENSE TO EXPORT DEFENSE ARTICLES AND SERVICES WILL BE SUBJECT TO REVIEW WITH THE PRESUMPTION OF DENIAL.

ALL PROJECTS FINANCED THROUGH THE EXIM FACILITIES AND OPIC ARE SUSPENDED.

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